

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CANBER 03386 280150Z

14-12

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 EB-07

OES-03 /063 W

----- 082089

R 280033Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5832

INFO DOD WASHDC

CINCPAC

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 3386

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AS, US, MARR, PINT, EWWT

SUBJECT: JOINT PARLIAMENTARY REPORT FAVORS CONSTRUCTION OF AN  
OMEGA STATION IN AUSTRALIA

1. ON MAY 27 AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT'S JOINT COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE TABLED ITS LONG-AWAITED REPORT ON THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OMEGA STATION IN AUSTRALIA.

2. THE EMBASSY RECEIVED AN ADVANCE COPY OF THE REPORT LAST  
WEEK. THERE ARE NO SURPRISES IN THE REPORT. IT IS A SOLID,  
WORKMANLIKE DOCUMENT WHICH DEBUNKS MUCH OF THE NONSENSE WRITTEN  
ABOUT THE OMEGA SYSTEM, AND RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF THE  
CONSTRUCTION OF AN OMEGA STATION IN AUSTRALIA. EVEN A MINORITY  
REPORT SIGNED BY SEVEN ALP MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE INCLUDING  
THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, SENATOR JOHN WHEELDON, CONCEDES MANY  
OPPONENTS OF THE SYSTEM HAD OVERSTATED THEIR CASE, WHICH HAD  
WEAKENED ANY GENUINE ARGUMENTS AGAINST IT. THE MINORITY REPORT  
RECOMMENDS THAT IF AUSTRALIA DECIDES TO GO AHEAD WITH THE SYSTEM  
IT SHOULD INSIST UPON IMMEDIATE INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OF THE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CANBER 03386 280150Z

SYSTEM.

3. THE NEXT STEP IN THE OMEGA SAGA WILL BE THE PRESENTATION OF A BUDGET SUBMISSION TO THE CABINET COVERING THE GOA'S SHARE OF THE CONSTRUCTION COSTS (APPROXIMATELY US\$500,000). AT THIS POINT SENATOR WHEELDON AND OTHER ALP OPPONENTS OF THE PROJECT WILL ATTEMPT TO KILL IT. GIVEN THE WEAKNESS OF THE CASE WHICH OMEGA OPPONENTS MADE IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT, THEY WILL BE HARD PRESSED TO SWING THE CABINET THEIR WAY IN A LOGICAL DEBATE. THE REAL QUESTION IS WHETHER THEY CAN CREATE ENOUGH EMOTIONAL HEAT WITHIN CABINET TO JUSTIFY THEIR REOPENING THE ISSUE IN THE ALP'S PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS. THE LEFT WING IS STRONGER IN CAUCUS THAN IN CABINET, AND A DEBATE ON OMEGA IN CAUCUS MIGHT REVERSE THE JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION TO PROCEED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN OMEGA STATION IN AUSTRALIA.  
GREEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONSTRUCTION, MEETINGS, NAVIGATIONAL AIDS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ellisoob  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975CANBER03386  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750185-0863  
**From:** CANBERRA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750510/aaaaaixm.tel  
**Line Count:** 76  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION PM  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ellisoob  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 NOV 2003 by ellisoob>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JOINT PARLIAMENTARY REPORT FAVORS CONSTRUCTION OF AN OMEGA STATION IN AUSTRALIA  
**TAGS:** MARR, PINT, EWWT, AS, US, OMEGA STATION  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006